

Centennial Group

Presentation Highlights Socially Responsible Electronics Recycling



On Thursday, January 5, 2012, the Centennial Group was truly fortunate to have a presentation by Mike Davis, COO of Recycletronics, a business owned and operated by the Tommy Nobis Center in Kennesaw.

Recycletronics is a socially responsible electronics recycler, and in fact, the only one in Georgia with recognized EPA-sanctioned responsible recycling practices. You can bring your old TVs, computers and components, smart phones, cell phones, and virtually any other electronics, and be satisfied that they will be disposed of in a responsible manner. They will not end up in landfills or in developing countries, where the health and safety of those working on them is a low priority... if indeed, it is a priority at all.

In addition, by taking your old gadgets to Recycletronics, you are also providing a social service by helping to create employment for people with disabilities and other barriers to employment. Which also means that if these people are employed, they are not getting government assistance, such as welfare, and are contributing to the tax base.

As much as the phrase is overused, this is indeed, a "win/win" situation. Mike's presentation, of course, went

into far greater detail than time and space permit here. And it was exciting and gratifying to know that someone so close to home takes electronic recycling and disposal seriously.

Anyone can hang an "Electronics Recycling" sign on a truck, but chances are that your formerly beloved gadgets will still end up in a landfill.

For those not familiar with the Tommy Nobis Center, it is an entity established in 1977, by Tommy Nobis, former linebacker with the Atlanta Falcons. Their stated mission is "... to develop and provide job training, employment, and vocational support for youths and adults with disabilities and other barriers to employment..."

The next time you get a new TV, laptop, or portable GPS/HD Radio/Geiger Counter and it's time to get rid of the old one, don't just stick it in the trash, under the burrito wrappers. Contact Recycletronics.

Better yet, don't wait until then. If you want to find out the real story, use one of your "gadgets" to give them a call at 770.426.1700 or visit them on the web at www.TommyNobisCenter.org.

And in the words of Ben Franklin, "Do well by doing good."

Upcoming Meeting Topics

March - Member Mark Banks on astronomy

April - Life University professor Humberto Dutra on invasive species

LaGrange Group

ExCom Election Report

The following board members will serve for 2012:

Joanna Baxter: Adopt a Stream Coordinator

Laura Breyfogle: Chair

Mary Drake: Treasurer / Chapter Ex-com alternative representative

Ellen Parkhurst: Communications/ Hospitality Chair

Dean Rogers: Vice chair/ Chapter Ex-com representative

Renee Warrick: Social Chair

Claire Zens: Secretary

Additionally, **Donna Weathers** will serve as our Outings Chair.

2012 Group Priorities

The LaGrange Group has identified the following four priorities for 2012:

(1) Work in conjunction with the Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeepers to provide training/recertification for our members and increase participation in the Adopt a Stream program. We are currently working with the UCRK and local officials to target key tributaries to the Chattahoochee to monitor on a monthly basis. We hope to set up Adopt a Stream training in March.

(2) Increase the number of outings offered from 1/month to 3/month. We have an enthusiastic and ambitious new Outings Chair Donna Weathers.

(3) Continue to provide thought provoking and educational programs at our monthly meetings. Provide an "action item" at each meeting.

(4) Continue to provide at least 2 social functions per year, our annual Christmas party and 1 or 2 summer parties.

Upcoming Meetings

February 21: Mark Woodall and Neill Herring will give a legislative update.

March 20: speaker TBA

Meetings are held from 6:30 to 8:00 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 207 N. Greenwood St.

